

# **Virginia Regulatory Town Hall Agency Background Document Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA)**

**Agency Name:** Department of Social Services  
**VAC Number:** 22 VAC 40-901-10  
**Regulation Title:** Community Services Block Grant Program  
**Action Title:** Promulgate new Regulation  
**Date:** 07/19/99

## **Basis:**

Chapter 39, §2.1-587 et seq. Code of Virginia gives broad authority to promulgate rules and regulations for the administration of the Community Services Block Grant Program. Regulations are mandated in specific instances including the requirement for matching funds and the formula for the distribution of funds.

## **Purpose:**

These regulations are intended to meet the minimum requirements mandated by §§ 2.1-589 and 2.1-598 of the Code of Virginia. If further study, or comments received during the public comment period, indicates that additional guidance or clarification is necessary additional regulations may be developed. Additional regulations would be considered only to the extent they would help to ensure the program operates in an efficient, effective manner, or is needed to ensure the program and its grantees operate in a manner, which protects the health, safety or welfare of the citizens of the Commonwealth.

## **Substance:**

The new regulations will require that local community action agencies will generate local contributions of cash or in-kind services. The regulation will also detail the formula for distribution of community action program funds. As stated above, if further review and public comment indicates a need for additional regulations, those developed will be the minimal required to address the stated need.

**Alternatives:**

Review of the existing regulations (being repealed in a separate package) and federal and state law revealed that broad authority exists to create regulations but they are required to address only a couple of issues. The federal law covering the administration of the Community Services Block Grant is very specific regarding most areas addressed by these regulations. Some of those areas include board structure, reporting requirements, and allowed uses of funds. The Department feels that through training and technical assistance, the local community action agencies can be made aware of its provisions. In addition, specific requirements for the local community action agencies are spelled out in their contracts with the State. Based on the regulatory review, processes other than extensive regulations can be used to achieve the same purpose. The regulations promulgated here will be the minimum mandated by state code or required to effectively and efficiently operate the program and protect the health welfare and safety of citizens.